Overview of Migrant Situation in Turkey

According to the latest available figures from the Turkish Directorate General for Migration Management (DGMM) currently there are more than 3.9 million foreign nationals present in Turkish territory seeking international protection.

Most of them are Syrians (3,576,370* individuals) who are granted the temporary protection status. In addition, asylum-seekers and refugees from countries including Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq and Somalia constitute another significant group of foreign nationals. According to UNHCR, as of end of February 2019, there are 368,230** asylum-seekers and refugees present in Turkey.

In addition, there are 1,101,030* foreign nationals under residence permit holder status including humanitarian residence holders.

Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Another large group other than Syrians who are under TP in Turkey are 368,230* asylum seekers and refugees consisting of different nationalities, but mainly originating in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Somalia.

Residence Permit Holders

Foreigners who would stay in Turkey beyond the duration of a visa or a visa exemption or, longer than 90 days should obtain a residence permit. There are 1,101,030 residence permit holders in Turkey within various categories. According to DGMM, the “other” residence permit category includes humanitarian residence permit holders, and while the exact number is unknown, it is believed that the vast majority of this category are Iraqis. The breakdown of the residence permit holders are shown in the map on the left. The category breakdown of residence permits are published annually whereas the total number of residence permit holders are monthly published.

*Data Source DGMM, 31.12.2019
**Data Source UNHCR, 28.02.2019

1 UNHCR ended registration process in Turkey on 10 September 2018. The registration process will continue with the procedure carried out by the Turkish authorities.
Migrants’ Presence Monitoring
MPM TURKEY
Situation Report
December 2019

Resettlement of Syrians From Turkey
Since 4 April 2016 when EU-Turkey statement on the readmission of migrants to Turkey arriving in Greece after 20 March 2016 entered into force, a total number of 25,161* Syrians were resettled to the below mentioned countries according to One-to-One mechanism with the assistance of IOM.

*Data Source DGMM, 31.12.2019

Apprehended Migrants and Refugees to Turkey Under EU-Turkey Agreement
Since 4 April 2016 there are 1,996* migrants and refugees readmitted to Turkey from Greece. Main points of return from Greece include Lesbos, Chios, Kos and Samos, while the main readmission points to Turkey include Dikili, Çeşme, Bodrum and Adana (point of entry is through airport).

*Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be free of error nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.

Apprehended Persons on Land*
According to the Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) sources, in December 2019, TAF registered a total number of 14,611 irregular border crossings; 11,632 of which having entered Turkey from the Syrian Arab Republic, Greece, Bulgaria and the Islamic Republic of Iran and registered 2,979 irregular crossings from Turkey into Greece, Bulgaria and the Syrian Arab Republic. The numbers per border are shown in the table on the left.

*Data Source TAF, 31.12.2019

Resettlement of Syrians From Turkey
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*Data Source DGMM, 31.12.2019

Apprehended/Rescued Persons on Sea
According to Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) reports, the Turkish Coast Guard apprehended 3,768* irregular migrants and no fatalities were recorded in December 2019. The top ten nationalities of apprehended/rescued migrants are Afghan, Palestinian, Syrian, Senegalese, Congolese, Iraqis, Central African, Somalian, South African and Kuwaiti.

*Data Source T.C.G., 31.12.2019

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